

Quarterly Progress Report

Project Name: Parker Mountain Sage-grouse

Utah State University Project Control Number:

Period Covered: Jan 1 to March 31, 2004

Project Investigators: David Dahlgren and Terry Messmer

Agency Contract Number: 020225

Submitted to: Dean Mitchell, Upland Game Coordinator, UDWR

Date Submitted: March 31, 2004

Narrative:

January and February were spent doing data entry for data collected in 2003. The 2003 annual report was finished up and presented to PARM members.

On January 22 PARM members met for a meeting. The conservation plan was worked on along with discussing upcoming activities. On March 25 another PARM meeting was held. We discussed the upcoming transplant to Strawberry and the conservation plan. We also discussed where the rest of the Joint Venture money was going to be used.

During the last part of March, I have helped in counting part of the Box Elder County sage-grouse populations. I was assigned the Pilot Mountain birds. No leks were found. Jim Lamb (UDWR) has started and will be doing most of the lek counts for Parker Mountain area. On April 6 PARM has planned to count all leks on Parker Mountain and the surrounding area in one morning. UDWR, BLM, USFWS, USU, personnel and members of the grazing association will be doing the counts. This is being coordinated through Jim Lamb.

Beginning March 29 BYU, USU, and DWR personnel began trapping hens to move to Strawberry Valley. This work will continue through the rest of the lekking season until 35 hens have been transferred.

In the upcoming quarter I'll continue to help with the Box Elder County lek counts. Also, Parker Mountain lek counts will continue to take place. On April 1 a flight is scheduled with the UDWR to look for hens. In May the field season will start and hens will be monitored on nests and into hatching and brooding. A field trip/PARM meeting is scheduled for the end of May.